

P24886.A0



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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant : Norbert RILITZ et al.

Group Art Unit: 3651

Serial No : 10/777,898

Examiner: Unknown

Filed : February 13, 2004

For : METHOD AND DEVICE FOR STACKING AN INCOMING SHEET
STREAM

SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents
U.S. Patent and Trademark Office
220 20th street S.
Customer Window, Mail Stop ____
Crystal Plaza Two, Lobby, Room 1B03
Arlington, VA 22202

Sir:

Pursuant to the duty of disclosure set forth in 37 CFR 1.56 and in accordance with the provisions of 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98, the following information is brought to the attention of the Examiner for consideration during examination of the instant application.

Applicant submits herewith a copy of a European Search Report (in German) dated July 5, 2004 and conducted in European Application No. 04090049.0, which is a counterpart of the instant application. In particular the European Examiner cited:

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(1) US 6,481,952. This document is cited as an "A" category document (i.e., a document of technological background). Col. 7, line 18 to col. 9, line 14 and Figs. 1-10 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to claim 1 of the European Application;

(2) EP 0 454 206. This document is cited as an "A" category document. Col. 3, lines 20-51 and Fig. 1 are indicated by the European Examiner as being relevant to the European Application;

(3) US 20020084578 is cited as a family member document of US 6,481,952; and

(4) US 5,292,223 is cited as a family member document of EP 0 454 206.

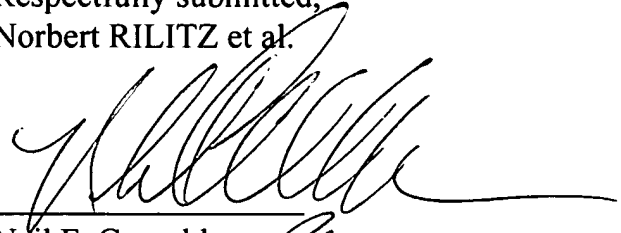
A copy of document (1) is not enclosed as this document was cited in the IDS filed in the instant application on February 13, 2004. However, copies of documents (2) - (4), including the European Search Report, are enclosed as is a completed copy of the PTO-1449 Form listing these documents. Accordingly, the Examiner is requested to consider these documents and to indicate such consideration by returning a signed and initialed copy of the PTO-1449 Form with the first official communication.

Applicant notes that this Information Disclosure Statement is being filed more than three months from the filing date of the instant US application, but before receipt of a first Office Action on the merits. Accordingly, consideration of the enclosed documents is required under 37 C.F.R. 1.97(b)(3).

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Should the Examiner have any further comments or questions, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
Norbert RILITZ et al.


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December 13, 2004
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FORM PTO-1449

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark OfficeAtty. Docket No.
P24886Application No.
10/777,898INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
BY APPLICANT
(Use several sheets if necessary)

DEC 13 2004

Applicant
Norbert RILITZ et al.Filing Date
February 13, 2004Group
3651

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

EXAMINER INITIAL		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
		6	4	8	1	9	5	2	11/19/02	DEUTSCHLE et al.			
	2002	0	0	8	4	5	7	8	07/04/02	DEUTSCHLE et al.			
		5	2	9	2	2	2	3	03/08/94	MESCHI			

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		DOCUMENT NUMBER							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION YES NO	
		0	4	5	4	2	0	6	10/30/91	E.P.O				

OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

EXAMINER

DATE CONSIDERED

*EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.